1. Persons with mental retardation/developmental disability live past age 50 and account for 1-3% of older citizens.

2. Most persons with DD/MR are managed at home (80%).

3. Health problems are common in older persons with mental retardation, including seizure disorders (23%), heart disease (14%), and hypertension (20%).

4. Families of most older persons with DD/MR have no contingency plan for caregiver loss (70%).

5. Behavioral problems are common in older persons with DD/MR (20-40%).

6. Significant numbers of older DD/MR persons receive psychiatric medications (24%).

7. Many older persons with mild DD/MR are not officially diagnosed as having intellectual disability.

8. Most older persons with DD/MR want to live in a community setting either with family or in a supervised group home.

9. Symptoms of dementia in a DD/MR person include loss of ADL, i.e., activities of daily living function, new behavior problems, or loss of intellectual functions.

10. Behavioral changes or loss of ADL function in older persons with DD/MR require a careful evaluation to exclude treatable medical problems or psychiatric disorders, e.g., depression.